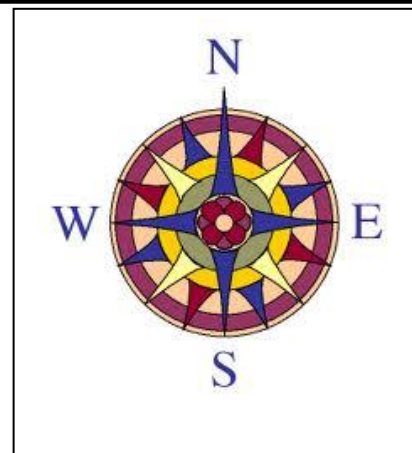




Site 14: Bonus! Compass Rose

N 40° 35' 36.11"

W 73° 53' 9.26"



The compass is one of the most important tools a flier uses in order to fly in the right direction. A compass uses the earth's magnetic field to point to magnetic north. Aberrations in the earth's magnetic field as well as disturbances from aircraft electronics can cause errors in compass readings. These errors can be compensated for by using the known compass directions at airports with a compass rose on the ground to make adjustments. This compass rose is one of two on Floyd Bennett Field that was used by pilots and their flight crews to make adjustments to their compass. The plane would be carefully rotated to ensure that it was aligned with the cardinal directions on the ground and then the compass on the plane was calibrated for an accurate bearing in flight.

Visit Instructions: Note the directions given for flight crews that you see written on the compass rose.